production. In case of cotton, the highest level of production was achieved during 1996-97 which was 14.23 million bales of 170 kgs. each while the highest level of production of sugarcane was recorded during 2001-02 which was 301.10 million tonnes. At this point of time it is difficult to say whether the production of various crops would exceed the highest levels referred to above.

(c) As regards foodgrains, there has been no shortage. In fact, the comfortable stock position coupled with high production in 1999-2000 and 2001-02 has led to a decline of 1.2% in the wholesale price index with base 1993-94=100 of foodgrains during the last three years (1999-2000 to 2002-03). As regards edible oils, the domestic production of oilseeds is inadequate to meet the needs for ensuring the required production of edible oils in the country. Despite the fact that the production of oilseeds increased from 18.61 million tonnes in 1990-91 to 24.75 million tonnes in 1998-99, the import of edible oils increased from 4.85 lakh tonnes to 26.22 lakh tonnes during the same period.The import of edible oils increased to 42.66 lakh tonnes in 2002-03 which of course reflect the decline in domestic production in subsequent years, especially in 2002-03 due to severe drought. The demand for edible oils is influenced by a number of factors like population growth, per capita income and market prices both at home and abroad. It is therefore difficult to ascertain the time required to achieve self-sufficiency in edible oils.

Promotion of fisheries

1093. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of fisheries that were opened by farmers in the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether Government have taken a pro-active step to promote fisheries to farmers of good climatic and water conditions to improve their economy;

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Statement is annexed *(See* below).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Recognizing the importance of the fisheries sector, the Government has been taking pro-active steps to promote fisheries. Some of the major steps taken in this regard are:

(i) Set up 429 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) and 39 Brackishwater Fish Farmers Development Agencies (BFFDAs) to organize fish/shrimp farmers all over the country.

(ii) Extended financial, technical and extension support to fishers.

(iii) Provided training and package of improved practices in fish/shrimp farming to fishers.

(iv) Provided diversification into new climatic areas and economically beneficial fish species.

(d) Question does not arise.

Statement

Development of Freshwater Aquaculture

Sl. No.	State	Area (in hectares) brought under Fish Farming		
		2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1.	Andhra Pradesh*	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	31	39	53
3.	Assam	565	68	68
4.	Bihar	241	259	18
5.	Goa*	Nil	Nil	Nil
6.	Gujarat	1620	2878	3412
7.	Haryana	1088	1107	1008
8.	Himachal Pradesh	39	50	51
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	857	862	NA
10.	Jharkhand	-	96	112
11.	Karnataka	5725	5811	1843
12.	Kerala	10276	634	NA
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1061	1319	1298

Sl. No.	State	Area (in hectares) brought under Fish Farming 2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
14.	Maharashtra	2045	1447	1448
15.	Manipur	234	400	Nil
16.	Meghalaya	Nil	94	191
17.	Mizoram	NA	180	350
18.	Nagaland	227	114	149
19.	Orissa	1475	927	1065
20.	Punjab	815	842	885
21.	Rajasthan	Nil	586	1915
22.	Sikklm	1	10	109
23.	Tamil Nadu	2064	2058	451
24.	Tripura	326	4690	349
25.	Uttar Pradesh	4311	4339	4504
26.	West Bengal	2422	2326	2110
27.	Chhattisgarh	850	1384	1621
28.	Uttaranchal	79	12	22
29.	Pondicherry	9	11	Nil
	TOTAL	36361	32543	23032

Integrated Coastal Aquaculture

Sl. No.	State	Area (in hectares) brought under Shrimp Farming 2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
1.	Andhra Pradesh*	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	Goa	Nil	6	32
3.	Gujarat	348	381	177
4.	Karnataka	188	1162	NA
5.	Kerala	NA	NA	NA
6.	Maharashtra	34	36	108
7.	Orissa	150	119	246
8.	Tamil Nadu	74	Nil	NA
9.	West Bengal	499	460	NA
10.	A&N Islands	Nil	Nil	Nil
	TOTAL	1293	2164	563

*Scheme is not operational.
NA-Not Available